



Canaan Peak TR. NO. 005

Dixie National Forest, Escalante Ranger District

General Description: A scenic loop trail around Canaan Peak with 360° views of Powell Point, Bryce Canyon National Park, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Mileage: 9 miles

Difficulty: Foot: moderate
Bike: moderate/difficult
Horse: moderate
OHV: not permitted

Trailhead access: 2 wheel drive gravel road. May be impassable when wet.

Elevation loss / gain: 900 ft

Water availability: none

Hazards / obstacles: Sections of the trail may be difficult to follow. Look for rock cairns and blazes marking the trail. Weather can change quickly. Be prepared for cold weather year round. Ridges, saddles, view points and open meadows are dangerous during thunderstorms.

Topo maps: USGS 7.5 minute quads: Upper Valley, Canaan Peak

The Trailhead: From Highway 12 between mile markers 44 and 45 turn south on FR 146 signed South Hollow and Canaan peak. The trailhead is 4.7 miles up the road on the right next to a shallow stock pond.

The Trail: The trail leaves the trailhead to the west and begins its climb to the ridge top. After .25 miles you will reach the ridge top where you will be able to see Bryce Canyon and The Blues. The trail continues along the ridge and soon you will be able to see Powell Point to the northwest. After about 2 miles the trail comes to an old road. Turn left following the road to the south. The ridges and canyons to the south are part of the Kaiparowits Plateau in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. When you see the pink cliffs above you to the north you are just below Canaan Peak. This area makes a nice campsite. Continue on the road for another ¼ mile keeping an eye out for where the trail leaves the road to the left (east). The trail steeply descends into Horse Creek. After 3.5 miles you will come to a sign on a tree on the edge of an open cactus covered hill side. You will be heading towards Winter Spring. The trail heads up the hill side to the north east. Look for rock cairns to mark the trail. At 4.5 miles the trail will descend into Canaan Creek then steeply climbs out for ¼ mile. When you reach an old road turn right (north) and follow the road. You'll pass a stock pond on the right and cross over Winter Spring. Shortly after Winter Spring the road intersects with forest road 520, continue straight. After .4 miles forest road 520 intersects forest road 146. Turn left (west) and follow this road 1.2 miles back to the trailhead.

